

Message Text

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70

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 NEA-10 TRSE-00 MBFR-04 SAJ-01 OIC-04

AEC-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7486

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13469

SHAPE FOR INTAF: GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, YO

SUBJECT: MBFR: CALL BY YUGOSLAV DIPLOMAT

1. AT THE REQUEST OF HIS AMBASSADOR, YUGOSLAV EMBASSY

FIRST SECRETARY DJENADIC CALLED SEPT 18 ON EMBOFF TO

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INQUIRE CONCERNING GERMAN PRESS ARTICLES ON WESTERN
MBFR POSITION AND TO ELICIT U.S. EXPECTATIONS CONCERNING

UPCOMING MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. EMBOFF REPLIED BY ELABORATING IN BROAD TERMS ON JUNE VIENNA COMMUNIQUE, EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY AND NOTING RELEVANCE TO YUGOSLAV INTERESTS OF "ASSOCIATED MEASURES." YUGOSLAV REP WAS TOLD THAT U.S. ALSO IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN BALANCE OF POWER, THAT CENTRAL EUROPE WOULD BE FOCUS OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS BUT THAT U.S. WAS FULLY CONSCIOUS OF AND WOULD SEEK TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF INTERESTS OF YUGOSLAVIA AND OTHER FLANK STATES. EMBOFF SAID ALLIED MBFR POSITIONS STILL BEING DEVELOPED AND TERMED RECENT PRESS ARTICLES "SPECULATION."

2. IN DESCRIBING CHIEF YUGOSLAV INTERESTS IN MBFR, DJENADIC EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING SAFE EAST-WEST BALANCE OF POWER AND CONCERN THAT REDUCED SOVIET FORCES NOT BE PERMITTED TO REDEPLOY SOUTHWARD TO THE HUNGARIAN/YUGOSLAV BORDER; IN THE LATTER CONNECTION, HE EXPRESSED THE WISH THAT THE WEST WOULD RETURN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO THE MATTER OF HUNGARIAN PARTICIPATION IN MBFR.

3. DJENADIC SAID BELGRADE THOUGHT THE USSR INTENDED TO PURSUE THE MBFR PROJECT SERIOUSLY; AS REASONS, HE CITED ECONOMIC PRESSURES AND CHINA, INCLUDING THE ENORMOUS COST OF DEPLOYING SOVIET TROOPS ON THE EASTERN FRONTIER. DJENADIC SAID MOSCOW WAS OBVIOUSLY AWARE OF CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES FOR UNILATERAL TROOP CUTS, BUT, IN THE YUGOSLAV VIEW, MOSCOW HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION COULD FOR THE TIME BEING CONTAIN THESE PRESSURES. DJENADIC ADDED YUGOSLAV ASSESSMENT THAT BREZNEV'S APPOINTMENT OF GRECHKO TO SOVIET POLITBURO WAS DESIGNED, INTER ALIA, TO MAKE RED ARMY CORESPONSIBLE FOR RUSSIAN DETENTE POLICY. HE EXPRESSED AWARENESS THAT SOVIET REPS AT VIENNA MBFR PREPARATORY TALKS HAD REFERRED TO PRESSURES FROM RED ARMY, BUT DISMISSED THESE AS ESSENTIALLY "BARGAINING TACTICS." WHILE BELGRADE HAD NO CLEAR PICTURE OF LIKELY SOVIET PROPOSALS, DJENADIC BELIEVED
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THE RUSSIANS UNDERSTOOD THAT, GIVEN SOVIET CONVENTIONAL FORCE SUPERIORITY, HEAD FOR HEAD REDUCTIONS WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE WEST; INSTEAD THE YUGOSLAVS EXPECTED THE SOVIETS "TO GO ALONG IN TIME WITH SYMMETRICAL PERCENTAGE CUTS."

4. IN CLOSING, DJENADIC SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH GENERAL WESTERN APPROACH AND HOPED THE WEST WOULD "REPRESENT YUGOSLAV INTERESTS" AT THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

HILLENBRAND

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